

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 00883 301203Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-15 ORM-02 DHA-02 TRSY-06 /092 W
-----310355Z 050272 /22

R 301130Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4323
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS USBERLIN 0883

E O 11652: NA
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, PINS, WB, GW, GE
SUBJ: SENAT INFORMATION OFFICE FOR EAST-WEST INQUIRIES

ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE SENATOR FOR THE INTERIOR,
THE INFORMATION OFFICE FOR EAST-WEST INQUIRIES (WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED
IN FEBRUARY 1976 BY THE SENAT) PROCESSED IN ITS FIRST 11 MONTHS OF
OPERATION AT TOTAL OF 24,586 INQUIRIES FROM PERSONS SEEKING ADVICE
OR INFORMATION. THIS FIGURE, WHICH INCLUDES VISIT OF WEST GERMAN
CITIZENS, REPRESENTED A 12-FOLD INCREASE WHEN COMPARED WITH THE
COMBINED TOTAL OF INQUIRIES RECORDED IN 1975 BY THE NUMEROUS SENAT
OFFICES THAT WERE THEN HANDLING MATTERS RELATED TO EAST-WEST
CONTACTS.

QUESTIONS ARISING FROM THE TRANSIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FRG AND
GDR, TOURISTIC AND VISITOR TRAVEL BETWEEN WEST BERLIN AND EAST
BERLIN OR THE GDR, FAMILY REUNIFICATION, AND CUSTOMS AND
MONEY EXCHANGE REGULATIONS ARE HANDLED BY THE EAST-WEST
INQUIRIES OFFICE, WHICH IS LOCATED AT A CONVENIENT DOWNTOWN
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LOCATION AND IS OPEN FOUR DAYS A WEEK TO SERVE THE GENERAL
PUBLIC.

THE INQUIRIES OFFICE ALSO RENDERS ASSISTANCE IN CASES OF
PERSONS WHOSE RELATIVES HAVE BEEN ARRESTED WHILE TRAVELING
IN EAST BLOC COUNTRIES. MOST OF SUCH ARRESTS IN THE GDR OR
ELSEWHERE IN EASTERN EUROPE USUALLY RESULT FROM SUSPICION OF

PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO ESCAPEES. PERSONS WHO CONSIDER THEMSELVES ENDANGERED IN AN EAST-WEST POLITICAL CONTEXT, MAY ALSO OBTAIN ADVICE AT THE INQUIRIES OFFICE OR ARE REFERRED IMMEDIATELY TO OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS THAT CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE. OTHER CASES HANDLED BY THE EAST-WEST INQUIRIES OFFICE INCLUDE GDR COMPLAINTS AGAINST PERSONS LEAVING THE TRANSIT ROUTES WITHOUT PERMISSION, ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF GDR CUSTOMS AND EXCHANGE REGULATIONS AND INVOLVEMENT IN SERIOUS TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN THE GDR.

ADDITIONALLY, ALL KNOWN CASES OF FRG AND WEST BERLIN CITIZENS OR RESIDENT ALIENS REFUSED ENTRY INTO EAST BERLIN OR THE GDR FROM WEST BERLIN ARE REGISTERED BY THIS OFFICE. PERSONS SEEKING ADVICE THAT CANNOT BE PROVIDED BY THE INQUIRIES OFFICE ARE GENERALLY DIRECTED TO THE ALL-GERMAN INSTITUTE (GESAMTDEUTSCHES INSTITUT), A EUPHEMISM FOR THE INNER-GERMAN MINISTRY BRANCH IN BERLIN. QUESTIONS CONCERNING FROZEN BANK ACCOUNTS IN EAST BERLIN OR THE GDR ARE REFERRED TO THE STATE CENTRAL BANK OR TO THE SENATOR FOR ECONOMICS FOR REPLY. GEORGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977035/aaaaaebr.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, PINS, WB, GE, GC
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